THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) The small scale industries sector is targeted to grow at the rate fo 12% per annum during the Tenth Five Year Plan.

(c) The Plan target has not been fixed in terms of contribution of small scale industries to gross domestic production.

SSIs in Himachal Pradesh

2463. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to set up Small Scale Industries in rural, backward, snowbound and far flung areas in Himachal Pradesh for the benefit of most weaker sections of the society; and

(b) if so, the programme drawn up during the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) The development of Small Scale Industries (SSI) units is primarily the responsibility of the State/UT Governments. The Central Government does not set up any SSI units. SSI units are set up by individual entrepreneurs in the country including in Himachal Pradesh. The Central Government supplements the efforts of State/UT Governments through various schemes/programmes relating to enhanced fiscal and credit support, better infrastructure, marketing facilities and incentives for technology upgradation. These schemes/ programmes are being implemented across the country.

(b) To further boost setting up and development of SSIs in Himachal Pradesh the following measures have been announced on 7th January, 2003:—

(i) The funding pattern for setting up Integrated Infrastructural Development Centres in Himachal Pradesh now provides for Central grant of 80% (in lieu of 40% earlier) of the project cost with a maximum of Rs. 4.00 crores (in lieu of Rs. 2.00 crores earlier) for each Centre.

(ii) 100% outright excise duty exemption for a period of 10 years from the date of commencement of commercial production.

(iii) 100% income tax exemption for initial period of five years and thereafter 30% for companies and 25% for other than companies for a further period of five years.

(iv) All new industries in the notified location would be eligible for capital investment subsidy @ 15% of their investment in plant & machinery, subject to a ceiling of Rs. 30 lakh. The existing units will also be entitled to this subsidy on their substantial expansion.

Revival of sick SSIs

2464. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sick Small Scale Industries units in Andhra Pradesh as on date;

(b) how many of them were financed by banks and quantum of loan pending against them; and

(c) what steps Government have taken for revival of sick Small Scale Industry units in the State?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) As per the latest data available from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), which compiles data on sick Small Scale Industries (SSI) units financed by the scheduled commercial banks, there were 9324 sick SSI units in Andhra Pradesh with outstanding amount of Rs. 327.92 crores as at the end of March, 2002.

(c) The Government is fully seized of the problem of industrial sickness amongst the SSI units and has taken various measures to facilitate timely indentification and rehabilitation of potentially viable sick industries including institutional mechanism in the form of State-level Inter-Institutional Committees (SLIICs), Special Rehabilitation Cells in banks and State Financial Institutions and elaborate guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India for extending rehabilitation assistance to eligible units. Further, based